Congress of the United States

House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515–1601

October 18, 2021

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr. President of the United States of America The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Biden,

I write today to express the urgent need for the United States to secure the release and return of the 17 missionaries taken captive in Haiti on October 16 by a street gang known for mass kidnappings of religious groups.

The captivity of Americans – whether in Port-au-Prince, Kabul, or anywhere else in the world is an international crisis, and we must respond diligently, immediately, and skillfully. Your administration's actions are assuredly being watched by those who would not hesitate to do our country harm and could have longstanding repercussions for Americans practicing their faith across the globe.

For decades, the United States has invested in developing Haiti through government aid and non-government organizations like Christian Aid Ministries. We urge you to capitalize on these relationships with the Haitian government and other resources available to you to leverage the secure and safe return of American citizens in harm's way.

The United States must be clear: capturing Americans is unacceptable and will be responded to swiftly and justly.

Sincerely,

Tracey Mann Member of Congress

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